

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 05286 071932Z

ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-01 INR-10 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 /146 W

-----044116 080852Z /13

R 071810Z APR 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8128

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 05286

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: BARBADOS 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA LEGISLATION

1. IN A CONVERSATION ON APRIL 5 WITH MR. O.M. BROWN, SOLICITOR GENERAL OF BARBADOS, DELOFF (TAFT) INDICATED US CONCERN WITH BARBADOS 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA LEGISLATION AND IN PARTICULAR CITED THE PROVISION THAT PURPORTS TO REQUIRE PRIOR PERMISSION OF WARSHIPS TO TRANSIT THE TERRITORIAL SEA. BROWN INDICATED THAT THIS PROVISION WAS INSERTED TO GIVE SOME DEGREE OF PROTECTION AGAINST VENEZUELAN WARSHIPS WHICH MIGHT BE IN THE AREA. DELOFF INDICATED THAT SUCH A REQUIREMENT WAS CONTRARY TO INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE INFORMAL COMPOSITE NEGOTIATING TEXT (ICNT) AND WAS OF SERIOUS CONCERN TO USG. DELOFF INDICATED THAT THERE ARE PERHAPS OTHER WAYS TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM AND CITED IN PARTICULAR ARTICLE 30 OF THE ICNT REGARDING THE NON-OBSERVANCE BY WARSHIPS OF THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE COASTAL STATE. THIS PROVISION WOULD INDICATE THAT BARBADOS HAS THE RIGHT TO TAKE CERTAIN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 05286 071932Z

ACTION IN APPROPRIATE CASES.

2. BROWN OPINED THAT PERHAPS TRANSIT OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA WAS DESIRABLE IN ORDER TO SURVEY IT AND NOTED THAT BARBADOS HAD ONLY OUTDATED CHARTS AND HAD NOT EVEN DRAWN BASELINES, LET ALONE THE 12-MILE AND 200-MILE LIMITS. AS THE CONVERSATION EVOLVED, DELOFF INDICATED THAT WE MIGHT

BE ABLE TO HELP IN DRAWING UP CHARTS ILLUSTRATING BASE-  
LINES AND VARIOUS LIMITS OFF THE COAST OF BARBADOS.

ALTHOUGH THE STATEMENT WAS HEDGED, BROWN INDICATED THAT IF  
THE US COULD DO THAT HE THOUGHT BARBADOS VERY LIKELY COULD  
DROP THE PROVISION REGARDING PRIOR PERMISSION FOR WARSHIPS.

3. LOS DEL BELIEVES THAT USG SHOULD IN FACT ASSIST  
BARBADOS IN DRAWING THE VARIOUS LINES ON AN UPDATED CHART.  
NEEDLESS TO SAY, THOSE LINES SHOULD BE DRAWN TO GIVE FULL  
EFFECT TO BARBADOS' RIGHTS CONSISTENT WITH INTERNATIONAL  
LAW. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, WANT TO AVOID ANY IMPLICATION  
THAT WE ENDORSE THEIR 12-MILE LIMIT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER  
THEY MAKE CHANGES TO OTHER OFFENSIVE PROVISIONS OF THEIR  
LEGISLATION. AT THE SAME TIME, IF WE DRAW UP CHARTS  
ILLUSTRATING BASELINES AND OTHER LIMITS THERE IS A FAIR  
CHANCE THAT BARBADOS WILL ACCEPT THEM AS SUCH AND AT LEAST  
WE WILL HAVE AVOIDED SOME OF THE EXCESSES THAT HAVE BEEN  
SHOWN BY OTHER COUNTRIES IN DRAWING SUCH LINES.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO CABLE  
COPY OF BARBADOS LEGISLATION ASAP. UNLESS DEPARTMENT OR  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PERCEIVES OBJECTION LOS DEL WILL PRO-  
CEED ALONG LINES NOTED ABOVE. INR/RGE IS REQUESTED IN  
THIS CONNECTION TO DRAW LINES AND POUCH CHARTS, ATTENTION  
G. TAFT. RICHARDSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW OF THE SEA, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FISHING LIMITS, MEETING REPORTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**To:** STATE BRIDGETOWN  
**Type:** TE  
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